THE HINDOO PATRIOT

With which is incorporated the Indian Field.

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Per Annum in Advance.
TOWN.....11-8.
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THE WEEK.

MONDAY, 24TH OCTOBER.

JUST AS THE Anti-Opium Society have opened their winter campaign by holding a great meeting at the Mansion House it is announced that there is being sown throughout China a breadth of poppy crop many times larger than in India. It is stated that all over the west of China, in the Provinces of Szechuen, Kweichow, and South Western Hu Pei, opium cultivation is everywhere tolerated, and in most places encouraged by the provincial officials. The production there is not only sufficient for the entire consumption of a population, among whom the habit of opium-smoking is universal, and who have never even heard of Indian opium, but is leaving a yearly increasing surplus for the supply of the last. The Shanghai correspondent of the *Times* says that home-grown opium is driving out the Indian drug in the inland cities of Shanghai and the neighbouring provinces. The writer goes on to say :

> Two travellers, missionaries, belonging to the China Inland Mission, have recently arrived from Bhamo, on the Upper Irrawady. They report the province of Yunnan to be rapidly recovering from its state of waste and desolation, and the universal form of the new cultivation to be a winter crop of opium. In February last the province was ablaze with popies. The fact is that the supply of opium from India is a small part of the total consumption of this country; it is mainly obtained from her own fields, and the cultivation of, and trade in, the drug are participated in by the Government of the country, in the west at least, in the most open manner. Under the circumstances, the language which the Government at Pekin have recently adopted with regard to the modicum of the drug coming from India, and which they have taught their representatives abroad to use and their acts in the case of the opium clause of the Commercial Treaty with the United States, is a hypocrisy which deserves a stern rebuke. China in the matter of opium, in reproducing her grievances of thirty years ago as materials of the present, is imposing on the world. While her high authorities at the capital pose as plaintive and helpless sufferers from the Indian import, her officials and people throughout the regions of the Empire remote from foreign gaze are cultivating opium everywhere.

And yet the fanatics in England think that if they can destroy the opium trade of India, they will save China. There could not be a greater mistake than this.

IT IS STATED that Mr. Capper, the Judicial Commissioner of Oudh, will probably resign the service. The *Pioneer* says : "If it is true, as alleged, that in connexion with being black-balled for a club at Mussoorie he lately challenged a brother officer of the civil service to fight a duel, there would certainly be a good deal of fitness in his resignation." It is believed that when the Judicial Commissioner of Oudh retires the higher appellate jurisdiction in Oudh will be transferred to the North West High Court.

MESSRS. TRUBNER AND Co. will publish at an early date the English version of a Buddhist catechism, composed by Mr. H. S. Olcott, of Bombay, and revised by one of the best scholars among the Buddhist priests of Ceylon whose certificate of orthodoxy it will bear.

PRINCE TAKAHITO of Japan is at the request of the Japanese Government to be allowed to go through a course of study at the Royal Naval College at Greenwich.

WE ARE SORRY to notice the death of Mr. Macleod Wyllie, for many years first Judge of the Calcutta Small Cause Court, and subsequently Secretary to the Legislative Council. The melancholy event took place on the 25th September last. Mr. Wylie was a devout Christian, and a zealous friend of the missionary cause. He was also a constant contributor to the *Friend of India* under Dr. Smith. He was about 65 years of age.

MR. ALDERMAN ELLIS has been elected Lord Mayor of London for the ensuing year.

MR. FAWCETT is said to contemplate the establishment of an Accidental Insurance Fund in connection with the Post Office.

AN IMPERIAL UKASE has been promulgated at St. Petersburgh, sanctioning the adoption of measures for connecting the White, the Baltic, and the Caspian Seas by means of a canal.

SIR LEPEL GRIFFIN has been amusing himself and his European and native friends at Indore by writing a comedy entitled "Woman's Rights" and appearing as "Jack Standish," one of the principal characters. All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy.

TUESDAY, 25TH OCTOBER.

WE HAVE RECEIVED the following letter from a correspondent :

In Thana Nawabgunge, in the Sub-District of Barrackpore, there is a village called Rurrah. A pucca road constructed by the munificence of late Baboo Issur Chunder Chowdry about 50 years ago, and commencing at the Barrackpore Trunk Road on the west, and terminating on the old Trunk Road on the east, passes by the Eastern Bengal Railway Station at Khurdah, and it is generally called by the Railway authorities "Station Approach Road." This public road though running through villages included in the South Barrackpore Municipality is used for traffic mostly by the people of Neelgunge, Syebona, Bundipore, Patulia and several other villages within the Road Cess limits, who drive their carts and bullocks with loads of merchandize to the marts of Khurdah and Sookchur. This road is in so miserable a condition that one can hardly pass through it with shoes on from June to September. The want of a good road deeply felt by the poor villagers suffering from malarious fever and other diseases inasmuch as the doctors and physicians are not willing to come to this village as they cannot drive through the road nor walk with their shoes on. I do not intend hereby to tax the Municipality with any indifference or inattention on the deplorable state of this road, inasmuch as the funds of the South Barrackpore Municipality are too meagre to afford the expenses of its repairs, but the Railway Authorities who profit so much by the Khurdah Station, from the several Mellahs and Hindoo festivals that take place so often at Khurdah, should not be so unmindful of this road and allow it to remain in such a wretched state, much to the inconvenience of the public and Railway passengers. If the Consulting Engineer who, I hear, is a daily Railway passenger from Barrackpore, would once deign to alight at the Khurdah Railway Station and inspect himself the condition of this road for an hour, he would no doubt find some means of redressing the grievances of the people, either by moving the Government or the Eastern Bengal Railway authorities to repair it. All the Railway Stations from Seoldah to Kanchrapara in the District of 24-Pergunnahs except the unfortunate Khurdah Station have each a pucca approach Road, to it constructed and maintained either by the Ferry Fund Railway Feeder or provincial Funds, and I see no reason why the authorities are so unmindful of the Khurdah Station Approach Road. If the Municipality cannot afford to maintain it can no other Funds be availed of for its repairs? The successors of the founder of this Road are now in a ruined state and are therefore not in a position to attend to its repairs and thereby remove the inconveniences felt by the public and railway passengers.

THE FUNERAL of the late President Garfield which took place at Cleveland, Ohio, was, it would appear, a most impressive ceremony. Vast numbers of people had come from all parts of America to witness the obsequies ; while in every town of the Union religious services were held in connection with the funeral. Throughout England there were marked and general indications of mourning.

THE REMAINS of General Garfield having been encased in an unpretentious casket covered with black cloth, lay, on the morning of the 21st of Sept., in the cottage at Elberon, where for an hour, the public were admitted to view them. Hundreds, availed themselves of the opportunity. At 9-30 A. M. the public were excluded, and a brief religious service held in the presence of Mrs. Garfield and family, and the attendant members of the Cabinet. The avenue in front of the cottage was crowded with a silent mass of people, and the scene was most impressive. At 10 A. M. a train consisting of four carriages, heavily draped, arrived over a temporarily constructed railway. The casket was placed in the first carriage, and the others were occupied by the members of the family and the Cabinet. The train slowly moved through Elberbon amid the deepest silence, and was met by a special train from New York bringing President Arthur and General Grant, who entered the funeral train, which then proceeded on its way to Washington. The Governor of New Jersey and his staff were present at the departure. At every city, town, and village along the route people gathered in large numbers, and witnessed the train passing in mournful silence. No other demonstrations were made.

WHEREVER THE FUNERAL train passed it was greeted with the most touching demonstrations of general sorrow. Even at the loneliest country-side stations a great population seemed to have dropped from the clouds, or risen from the ground, for the purpose of paying homage to their martyred President. They received the train with the most decorous solemnity and silence. As in other parts of the route bent and bared heads and silent tongues marked outwardly the sentiment of grave but not hysterical mourning which has been evoked in such intensity by Mr. Garfield's death. In the cities along the route where the inhabitants are less simple and primitive than in the quaint little rural communities in the States, public feeling was manifested in an equally impressive manner. In these towns the train, as it flew through the dark night, had to pass, not between small groups of rough sun-browned mourners, but through living avenues of people, the walls of which were composed of packed masses of men and women. From various parts of such a route, of course, there came many heart-rending sounds of weeping and sobbing. In some towns the people strewed the railway line with flowers, behaving as if the carriage containing the dead President were a car of triumph, the wheels of which must be made to roll over with rose leaves. In the smaller towns and townships the people did not strew flowers in the path of the funeral train, but they all knelt down and bared their heads when the cars passed. The women covered their faces with their hands, and seemed to be crying.

FROM WASHINGTON we have a story of an alleged plot to assassinate President Arthur. A Mr. Bayley has filed a sworn statement in the police department asserting that he heard two men arranging the plot in the street. He says he can recognise the men, but no arrests have yet been made.

THE NATIONAL BANK of Luxembourgh has just failed. It held so many bad bills that it could not meet its liabilities. About £3,000,000 worth of its notes are held by working people, and the excitement caused by its stoppage of payment is intense.

A SECRET SOCIETY has been formed in St. Petersburgh for the purpose of counteracting the Nihilist machinations and getting rid of the Nihilist leaders, four of whom are marked out for secret execution. The Russian refugees in Geneva firmly believe in the existence of the society, and have been warned by their friends in Russia to be on their guard.

WEDNESDAY, 26TH OCTOBER.

THE INDIAN CIVIL SERVICE Commissioners have issued the new regulations relating to the examination in English literature at the open competition of June, 1882, for the Civil Service of India. Under this head there will be (besides the general paper) a special paper on the following books : —1. Chaucer—Prologue to the "Canterbury Tales," with the Clerk's Tale. 2. Shakespeare—"Coriolanus" "The Tempest." 3. Milton—"Comus" and Sonnets. 4. Bacon—Essays, I. to XXX. inclusive. 5. Johnson—"Six Chief Lives of the Poets," viz., of Milton, Dryden, Swift, Addison, Pope and Gray ; with Macaulay's Biography of Johnson. The oral examination in English literature will have reference chiefly to such works, not included in the foregoing list, as the candidate may offer for the purpose.

PROFESSOR MAX MULLER has announced a curious discovery of Sanscrit manuscripts recently made in Japan by two of his Japanese pupils, Oxford. The work is the text of the celebrated "Diamond Knife," forming part of the Sacred Canon, or Bible of the Buddists, but hitherto known only through Thibetian and Mongolian translations, the original being supposed to be irrecoverably lost.

A STRANGE CHARACTER. Lady Ellenborough, according to the Paris correspondent of the *Times*, has passed away. She was the daughter of Admiral Sir John Digby, and in 1824 was married to Lord Ellenborough, our late Governor-General. In 1830 they were divorced. Details of the coldness in the commencement, warming into aversion in the end, which led to the event of 1830, are familiar to persons curious in the tragedies of common life. The husband continued his course of ambition before the eyes of the world. He had his repeated triumphs of eloquence, his busy transactions at the India Office, his memorable Viceroyalty at Calcutta. The discarded wife sank below the horizon of the society of her equals. She might never have emerged into notice had not M. Edmond About visited Athens five-and-twenty years later. He heard how she has passed some, at any rate,

of the intervening period, and he emblazoned her adventures in one of his most brilliant volumes. In 1832 she married the Baron Venningen, and then after this she became the wife of a Greek soldier, who ultimately deserted her. She then formed a connection with a Bedouin, Midjouel, to whom she alleged she owed her life. According to the account of a traveller who saw her at Damascus two years since, the latter union was a happy one. There was a stipulation between husband and wife that the offspring were to be Mussulmans if males, and Protestants if females as also that Midjouel was to spend half the year at Damascus with Ianthe, and half in the desert with his harem, Ianthe visiting him there only once a month. The following account of a visit is also doubtless somewhat coloured :

"Ianthe was more than 60 (72), Midjouel nearly 50. Ianthe was still elegant and charming; Midjouel was proud and docile Ianthe was a remarkable rider, Midjouel had remained the most ferocious of the Bedouins. Ianthe had on her table all the newspapers and reviews of the west; Midjouel was horsey. Ianthe, smoking her cigarette, questioned the Parisian about the theatres he had left, the authors and politicians in vogue, and about her old friends. Ianthe still resembled the portrait Lawrence made of her when she was still called Lady Ellenborough, which was recently disposed of at the sale of the Wilson collection. Midjouel was frightfully bearded and unwashed.

KING KALAKAUA, of the Sandwich Islands, has had decorations and orders thrust upon him during his travels. He was decorated in Japan, Siam, Egypt, Portugal, Belgium, and England. Queen Victoria conferred on the King the Grand Cross of the Order of St. George and St. Michael, and he in return conferred on the Queen the Grand Cross of the Order Kamchameha. On the Prince of Wales he conferred the Cross of the Order of Kalakaua. The King takes back with him a number of Kentucky horses, and he has made arrangements for the importation of from 5000 to 10,000 Portuguese emigrants to the Sandwich Islands from the Azores. They will receive eight dollars a month and lodging, and bind themselves to remain from three to five years. Fifteen thousand out of the 65,000 inhabitants of Hawaii are Chinese, and their preponderance has led to the decision to import Portuguese, to redress the balance. The expenses of the King's journey, it is said, he has paid out of his private income of £10,000 a year.

THURSDAY, 27TH OCTOBER.

WE ACKNOWLEDGED last week the receipt of a book entitled "the compendium of criminal rulings by Kedarnath Ghose B. L" The compiler has evidently taken great pains and shewn much intelligence in preparing this compilation

IT IS STATED that the Bombay lawyers have discovered that the enhancement of the sentence of the Vaishnava Maharaj by the Governor of Bombay was illegal, inasmuch as under Section 411 of the Indian Penal Code, the section under which the Maharaj was convicted, the maximum term of imprisonment is fixed at three years.

WE HAVE received the following from our Gossain Durgapore correspondent :

Kushtea is about to lose the best thing it could show as one of its business monuments. The saw-mill, lately the property of Mr. David Foggo, has been sold to Mr. Larminie, Elephant catcher in Hill Tipperah and brother to Mr. Larminie of the Civil Service. The purchaser proposes to remove the mill to Sylhet where he thinks he will be able to work it to advantage.

The Allumdangah Police Station Burglary case has had a very curious lesson read to its victims. The Sub-Inspector of Allumdangah and the Head Constable have been degraded one step by order of the District Superintendent of Police.

The Kushtea Sub-Division is suffering severely from malarious fever, but unfortunately no arrangement has been made for the treatment of the sufferers.

WE HAVE received the following from a Beerbhoom correspondent :

The malarious fever is raging in this district with unusual virulence this year and the district which enjoyed the reputation of a sanatarium is now the hot bed of an obstinate epidemic fever. It is a pity that people who can afford to pay for their treatment are suffering and dying for want of medical aid for there are no good doctors available here. The mass of the people as usual cannot afford to pay for medicine and medical advice and their number is legion. Here is an opportunity for Raja Ramranjun Chakravarti, of Hetampore for the exercise of his practical benevolence and unostentatious patriotism. The Raja it may be noted is showing every attention to his neighbours but his charity should embrace a wider area. Babu Deorgadas Roy, the Raja's Manager, has effected many improvements in his affairs, but here is a golden opportunity for the Babu to secure for his master and himself the blessing of Heaven by acts of kindness to the neglected poor of this district.

A CORRESPONDENT writes to us as follows :

Now that the Civil Courts Act Amending Bill is on the Legislative anvil, I would take this opportunity to suggest that the designation Munsiff applied to certain members of the Subordinate Judicial Service may be altered and a more appropriate one substituted.

The status of this body of officers has been considerably raised of late in respect of emoluments, dignity and power, and it is desirable that their designation should no longer carry with it the old associations and traditions, of which, I dare say, you are aware if you have passed a portion of your life in the country.

If the Legislature thought it fit to substitute "Subordinate Judge" for "Principal Sadr Amin," the same reason should influence them to alter the name Munsiff.

Change of the name is also necessary as Junior Civilians have recently been directed by the Bengal Government to take a portion of civil judicial work and in doing so to go by the existing name of Munsiff. I almost feel persuaded that no civilian would ever be fond of that name. I am glad to find that no less a personage than the Editor of the *Indian Daily News* has already recommended a change in the name. Would it not be well, Mr. Editor, to call the Junior Civilians and the native Munsifs Assistant Judges in disposing of Civil work, as the Civilians are now called Assistant Magistrates in doing criminal business ?

FRIDAY, 28TH OCTOBER.

THIS IS the sort of stuff, which is going down in England, regarding the effects of the Indian opium trade :

The Methodist Œcumenical Conference, held in London last month, adopted the following resolution in reference to the opium trade :—

"That the growth of the manufacture of opium in India and its export to China, under the direct sanction of the British Imperial Government, and as virtually a Government monopoly, *are serious obstacles to the spread of Christianity in China, and injurious to the credit and influence of England throughout the Eastern world.* And we most respectfully but earnestly call upon the Government to deliver this country from all further responsibility arising from such an iniquitous traffic."

Yes, the Indian opium trade is a bar to the spread of Christianity in China. But China is now extensively cultivating opium at home. What have the missionaries to say to this ?

ANOTHER extract :

Mr. Robert Hart, Inspector-General of the Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs, has published a statistical paper in which he reduces the opium-smokers of China to an infinitesimal fraction of the population. The supply of the drug from India he calculates will suffice for only 1,000,000 smokers out of 300,000,000 of people. Assume the correctness of his calculations : and what then ? There are in China 1,000,000 victims of our opium trade. *Suppose the average life of each to be ten years, after beginning the vice, then Great Britain is implicated in the deaths of* 100,000 *opium sots every year.*

What a strange confusion of ideas ! England is responsible for the death of 100,000 "opium sots." But opium does not shorten, rather it tends to prolong life.

THE BEHAR HERALD reports that, on October 17th, about 100 passengers, mostly pilgrims, going to Benares, were ejected from their carriages at Dinapore to make room for some soldiers. Owing to the representations of some gentlemen, room was found in the train for some of them ; but a number, amongst whom were several women, were left behind. We think this is a matter which should attract the attention of the Lieutenant-Governor.

HIS HONOR the Lieutenant-Governor has addressed the following handsome letter of congratulation to the Maharaja of Doomraon on his appointment as a Knight Commander of the Star of India :

16th October, Darjiling.

My dear Maharajah —It is with very great pleasure and satisfaction that I write to tell you that I this morning received a telegram from the Private Secretary to the Viceroy informing me that Her Majesty the Queen has been graciously pleased to appoint you to be a Knight Commander of the Star of India. I have already communicated this to you by telegram, but I can't let the occasion pass without writing to tell you what sincere pleasure this information has given to me. You have always deserved well of Government and have most thoroughly earned this recognition of your excellent services and your exemplary conduct as one of the leading noblemen of Behar. This honour has unfortunately come to you late in life, but I hope and believe that you have still many years to live and enjoy the satisfaction of realizing how thoroughly your services to Government and your people have been appreciated.

I am your very sincere friend,
Ashley Eden.

THE ENGLISHMAN says, the question raised by the fall of one of Leslie's iron sheds at Naraingunj is a very serious one, and one which, considering the large number of sheds of this description already erected and in use in Calcutta and elsewhere, ought in any case to be made the subject of the most searching investigation. A flaw in the material might cause the collapse of the most carefully designed roof, but if it is the case, as is currently reported, that more than one of Leslie's roofs have previously failed, the presumption is rather that the design is faulty. If so, a large number of human lives are being daily and hourly jeopardised ; and there ought to be no delay in taking the necessary steps to put the matter beyond doubt.

IT WOULD seem that peasant proprietorship has not succeeded in Scotland. Mr. Walter, who has lately, on behalf of the Royal Commission of Agriculture, been over all the counties north of the Forth, writes :

Very few peasant proprietors anywhere, and those few far from prosperous. Fife has most, but there, too, they are neither doing well nor are they on the increase. Their only chance hitherto of keeping abreast of the large farmers, with their long leases, large capital, and improvements maintained by the landlords lies in crops suitable for spade labour near the towns ; but even here the farmers menace them with extinction, as not a few of them are turning their attention to strawberries and the like on an extensive scale. South of the Forth matters are known not to differ essentially from this description ; so that, if Scotch experience were decisive the look-out for *la petite culture* would not be encouraging.

SATURDAY, 29TH OCTOBER.

MR. HORACE WALPOLE, C. B., has been appointed Assistant Permanent Under-Secretary of State for India, in the place of Sir Thomas Seccombe K.C.S.I., lately retired. Mr. Walpole was Private Secretary to Lord Salisbury and Lord Cranbrook ; and was made Clerk of the Council in the India Office by the Conservative Government, to secure him a permanent place there. Great credit is due to Lord Hartington for this impartial dispensation of patronage.

THE ENGLISHMAN's reporter is responsible for the following :

(*Before F. J. Marsden Esq.,*)

Palkeewallahs fined.—Mr. G. H. Fleury charged four palkeewallahs with refusing to carry his mother who had cut his arm severely to the hospital. The Court explained to the men that they were bound to carry any one who hired them, and fined each of them four rupees.

We are really surprised that Mr. Marsden should have committed the strange mistake of fining the Palki-bearers in this matter. It was a question of religious feeling with them. The touch of a *mother* would accordingly to their religious belief defile them, and it was monstrous that they should be criminally punished by a British Magistrate for the exercise of their religious feeling. Is this the religious toleration secured to Her Majesty's Indian subjects ? The Government ought to remit the fine upon the poor bearers.

IT IS STATED that the Arabs who, lately defeated Ali Bey, have destroyed the railway station and part of the line at Oued Zergha, 60 miles from Tunis, burning the Station Master alive and massacring about a dozen of the officials, most of whom were Maltese and Italians.

WE ARE GLAD to observe that the Bombay Government has accepted *con amore* the proposal of the Government of India for the extension of the principle of local self-government to the people of this country. We do hope that all local Governments will heartily co-operate with the Government of India in this vitally important matter.

A PETITION, signed by 44 mercantile firms in Batavia, has been presented to the Governor-General of Netherlands India, praying that book-keeping in the Dutch language, or in the Malay language written with Roman characters, be made compulsory on Chinese and Foreign Oriental traders there as a check on fraudulent bankruptcy among them. What next and next ?

WE ARE SURPRISED that the Board of Revenue should have committed itself to the issue of such a circular as this :

From the result of prosections instituted under the Stamp Law, reported in Return XXIC for the two half years of 1880-81, it appears that in some cases the fines inflicted by the criminal courts have been of smaller amount than the penalty provided under the Stamp Act or than had been imposed by the Collector, and for evading the payment of which the prosecution had been instituted. As the imposition by the Magistrate of nominal fines in cases of prosecutions under section 61 of the Indian Stamp Act is a direct encouragement to evade the payment of the penalty imposed by the Collectors under section 37 of the Act, the Board direct that Revenue Officers should bring to the notice of the criminal courts trying such cases the amount of penalty in each case provided by the Stamp Act, and the impolicy of imposing a fine which is less than that provided under the Act.

Suppose the Collector of Calcutta were to suggest to the High Court the impolicy of imposing a light fine, would he not be guilty of contempt of court ? Mofussil *hakims* may excuse such impertinence, but should the Board have prompted it ?

WE HAVE RECEIVED the following telegrams from the Press Commissioner's office :

Simla October 14.—Further reports regarding the capture of Herat state that a third and decisive action took place on the 2nd October at Shaglan, seven farsakhs from Herat. According to Abdul Kudus the battle was hotly contested. He had artillery and regulars with him and had been joined by the Ghilzais of Obeh and others. The day after the battle he marched to Dahan, ten miles from the city, which he entered without opposition on the 4th. Other accounts state that the victory was due to the Char Aimaeks, the Kabulish holding aloof during the action.

Sirdar Habiballa Khan, son of the late Amir Dost Muhammad, has been appointed Governor of Kandahar.

27.—After the capture of Herat, Kudus Khan is reported to have displayed much moderation towards the inhabitants who received him well. No injury was done to life or property. Abdul Wahab Khan and other chiefs have come in to Herat and made their submission.

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on 07 August, 2017

WE TAKE from the morning papers the following telegrams of the week:

London, October 24.—A mass meeting consisting of fifty thousand people has been held in Hyde Park at which resolutions were passed condemning the policy of Government in Ireland. A farmer has been murdered at Ennis, County Clare. The Steamer Clan Macduff has been abandoned at sea. Nineteen people, left on board have been rescued by a steamer and landed at Plymouth. A boat containing eleven of the passengers and crew has been picked up. The occupants have safely landed at Liverpool. Three people who have landed at Queenstown are the only survivors of a boat containing 25 of the passengers and crew.

25.—The Irish landlords are combined for mutual protection.

The Dublin corporation have refused to grant the freedom of the City to Messrs. Parnell and Dillon.

27.—The latest advices from New Zealand state that Te Whiti has assumed an aggressive attitude. Large additions are daily made to the cases for settlement by the Irish Land Commission. Mr. Gladstone is visiting Earl Derby at Knowsley.

27.—Mr. Jerningham, the Liberal candidate has been elected by an overwhelming majority for Berwick-upon-Tweed, vice Sir D. Marjoribanks raised to the peerage. The *Times* publishes a paragraph stating that Ayoub Khan will be interned in Persia, probably at Teheran. *Obituary.*—Mr. Massey, Member for Tiverton.

28.—Mr. Gladstone, in receiving a deputation, said the Irish were paying rents and that the land commission was working well. He expressed himself hopeful of a speedy return of prosperity and peace to Ireland.

SAYS THE WEEKIST in the *Saturday Evening Englishman*: "A Society has been formed in America for 'the Amelioration of the Human Race.' It has voted an address to the Government, demanding a commission to enquire into all the projected marriages in the territories of the United States as to whether or no the contracting parties can offer a sufficient guarantee as to their physical or moral fitness to enter the holy estate (*sic*) of matrimony. * * * A society of this sort would do some good amongst the natives." Certainly. But why restrict it to the natives only? Would it not do some good also amongst those who have affinity, free love, grass widows, running away with other people's wives and then marrying them, bogus banks, white-washing merchants, and other such social institutions thriving amongst them? We wonder what effect the "moral fitness" clause will have upon persons who have had, at some time or other, free board and lodging at Government expense in institutions specially reserved for certain classes of the community.

WE HAVE to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the under-mentioned publications and periodicals:—1. Indo-Aryans, contributions towards the elucidation of the Ancient and Mediæval History. By Rajendralala Mitra, LL D., C.I.E. 2. Report on the Railway Home Trade of the N.-W. P. and Oudh for the quarter ending 31st March 1881. 3. Accounts of External Land Trade of British India for three months, April to 30th June 1881. 4. Report on the Agricultural resources of the Seychelles Islands, and of observations by the Director of Forests and Gardens, with the Lieutenant Governor's minute thereon. 5. Report on Public Instruction in the N. W. P. and Oudh for 1880-81. 6. London Statesman for October 1881. 7. The Hygienic and Agricultural value of Phosphorus. By J. Laker Macmillon, F.C.S. Part I. 8. The Occult World. By A. P. Sinnett. 9. Administration Report of Baroda for 1879-80.

INDIAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE CULTIVATION OF SCIENCE.

(210, Bow-Bazar Street.)

Practical Class in Chemistry under Babu Tara Prasanna Roy, F. C. S., F. I. C., on Wednesday, the 2nd Nov. at 5 P. M.

Lecture by the Very Rev. Father Lafont, S. J., C. I. E., on Thursday, the 3rd Nov. at 7 P. M.,

Subject: Spectroscopic observations of the Sun.

Lecture by Babu Tara Prasanna Roy, F.C.S. F.I.C., on Saturday, the 5th Nov. at 3 P. M.

Subject: Antimony, Bismuth, and Tin.

The Hindoo Patriot.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 31, 1881.

IRELAND AND THE LAND ACT.

THE OCTOBER number of the *Nineteenth Century* contains a remarkable article from the pen of the Earl of Derby on "Ireland and the Land Act." It is a calm and thoughtful paper worthy of its thoughtful author. The noble writer is of opinion that "the Land Act has given the Irish tenant more than he was in strict justice entitled to claim." The first question which Lord Derby asks is—how will the Act affect the landowners? His Lordship says, "it is a question to which no general answer can be given applicable to all classes of landowners, and to all parts of Ireland." According to His Lordship the objects and motives which lead persons to invest capital in land in the Emerald Isle are the same that influence capitalists in other parts of the world. These are, (1) political influence; (2) social importance, founded on territorial possession, the most visible and unmistakable form of wealth; (3) power exercised over tenantry; the pleasure of managing, directing, and improving, on the estate itself; (4) residential enjoyment, including what is called sport; (5) the money return—the rent. As regards the first, Lord Derby says, that in Ireland, in the last few years, the political influence of the landowner is practically extinct. As for social dignity His Lordship holds that nothing can take it away from the owner of broad acres. Power over the tenantry the Irish landlord has none. Of the pleasure of management of property the Irish landlord has at present little. As regards sporting rights and residential enjoyment in general the Act leaves matters where they were. Lord Derby thus writes on the last point: "We now come to the question of rent. And on this point it is not wonderful that a good deal of alarm and anxiety should be felt. Never before in English history has so vast a power of disposing of other men's property been assigned to any quasi-judicial tribunal. The Commissioners are absolute as no other set of men in the British Islands are absolute. They have no law to guide and control them. They need give no reasons for their decisions. There is no appeal from their authority. These are enormous powers, and the fact that they should have been conceded, though after long debate, is the best proof that Parliament has recognised the gravity of the crisis." His Lordship continues: "One peculiarity of the legislation of 1881 is also visible in that of 1870. It is probably inevitable, but it is unlucky. The worst landlords fare best under it, the best fare worst. Those who before 1870 utilised the time of distress by clearing their estates, regardless of the suffering inflicted, and turning them into grazing farms, have lost nothing by either Act. Their bargains are made with large tenants, on the principle of contract and under a system of leases; they have therefore nothing to fear from re-valuation, and they are drawing from their land the full commercial rent that it can afford to pay. They have profited by what present legislation would describe as their own wrong. On the other hand the humane landlord, who has foregone his just dues and sacrificed his private means to help his half-starved tenantry through a difficult time, is rewarded by having them made in perpetuity part owners with him of the soil. The real sufferer will be the small needy proprietor, who pressed himself, is driven to press his tenants in turn; and the landowner who valued his estate chiefly as a trust put into his hands to improve and develope. The former class will be ruined; the latter will find their money thrown away and their occupation gone." Such, Lord Derby thinks, will be the effects of the new Land Act upon the landlord class.

How will the new Act affect the tenant? Lord Derby says: "Generally speaking, two things are clear: the tenant will have less done for him, and he will be more free to do what he can for himself. The improving landlord will disappear; for who is likely to spend his own capital in improving another man's estate? As a set-off, it is alleged that the tenant will exert himself more actively than before. 'We dare not improve, lest our rent should be raised,' has been the popular cry; and there may possibly be cases where the feeling is real and the apprehension justified. There are, however, some considerations on the other side which we cannot overlook. Many kinds of improvements cannot be made by the small tenant unaided: they require capital and skill as well as industry. Drainage, deep ploughing, the use of expensive manure, the purchase of improved breeds of cattle, are not results to be accomplished by the impecunious peasant-owner. Industry not backed by capital and machinery may create a garden, but hardly work a farm. Nor is it certain that the opportunities possessed will be utilised. The industry of the French or Belgian proprietor is admirable, though often ill-repaid; but a negro or Red Indian village is not a very beautiful sight. An industrious family are stimulated by the sense of ownership to exert themselves to the utmost; but where the disposition to industry does not exist, freedom from external pressure may mean in practice freedom to do nothing." Again: "One economical effect of the recent change has been less noticed than it deserves. 'Free sale' means that every outgoing tenant shall be entitled to get the highest price he can for his interest in the soil. No person, then, can in future be admitted to an Irish holding who has not or cannot raise ready money to pay for it. A more effective check on the multiplication of small farms it would be difficult to devise. For not only does the prohibition of subdivision make their increase impossible; but the power of selling at any moment gives opportunities such as they never had before to the larger holders to buy out their smaller neighbours. We know in England how rapidly small freeholds tend to merge in the surrounding estates. Why should it be otherwise in Ireland? The occupier (virtually the owner) of 100 acres will always be ready to give more than their value for the five or ten acre lots adjoining his own. This is not exactly the result contemplated or desired by the agitators of the Land League; but they will not be the only persons who have found that they had worked for an end which they neither foresaw nor approved." If this view be correct, and if a large part of the Irish soil is likely to pass absolutely into the hands of the occupier (though subject to a heavy mortgage) what are his prospects of being able to hold his own in the future? The two obstacles in his way seem to be—(1) debt; and (2) large families. It is asserted by those who know the Irish tenantry well, that a large proportion of them are already in the hands of the local money-lender. Up to 1870 they were comparatively free of debt, for the excellent reason that they had no security on which to borrow. Since 1870 the compensation money payable for disturbance by eviction, and that due to them for improvements, have created a facility for contracting loans which did not before exist. The more complete becomes their freedom from landlord claims, the larger is the amount to which they will be able to become indebted. Most readers of French literature will remember the language in which Michelet speaks of the embarrassment of the French peasant-holders, and for the possible danger thence arising to the State. No one will compare the Irish in point of industry and frugality with the French; and their disadvantages in point of soil and climate are obvious. Good farmers may hold their own; but the more slovenly sort will be apt to rely on the uncertain but easy cultivation of the potato. In this crop, above all others, occasional failures must be expected, and every such failure means a deficit in the year's income, an application to the nearest bank, and a fresh charge on the estate. Unlimited ownership means unlimited credit—to the value of the property owned—and by no persons is unlimited credit more likely to be abused than by those who have never till lately been their own masters. This is exactly the objection we have taken to the transferrability of the occupancy tenure in Bengal.

Such is the opinion of one of the most earnest thinkers of England on the probable effects of the Irish Land Act. We will not go into the political question, which Lord Derby has discussed so fully. His Lordship holds that the land question is not the real question at issue. He says: "But it is impossible to treat the land question as it affects Ireland without reference to the larger aims avowedly kept in view by those who have been most active in stirring it. No one who habitually, or even occasionally, reads the Irish newspapers can long retain the notion that economical or philanthropic considerations are foremost in the minds of the Land Leaguers and their friends. The leading idea throughout is that of nationality—Ireland for the Irish. Landlords are denounced as oppressors and landlordism as robbery; but their real offence is that they are regarded as part of the English garrison as supporters of the English connection, as men reconciled to, and

acquiescing in, the system by which Irish affairs are dealt with at Westminister and not at Dublin." We are more concerned with the probable economic and social effects of the Irish Land Act. than its political tendencies. And the lessons which Lord Derby draws from it are of the highest practical importance. We hope that those who have the fate of the Bengal Rent Bill in their hands will take into earnest consideration the thoughtful remarks of Lord Derby.

THE HOLKAR AND THE SALT LINE.

UNDER this head the September number of the London *Statesman* contains an instructive article on the relations of our Government with the native princes. It is well known, as the writer says, that the great source from which the Native States of Rajpootana and of Central India used to draw their supplies of salt were the great Sambhur Salt Lake, in the territory of the Maharaja of Jaipur, and certain other lands in Marwar and elsewhere. The cost of this salt was very small, as there was little or no duty upon its manufacture. To prevent this cheap salt being smuggled into British territory, our Government drew a vast cordon, or Customs' line, round the Native States, across which no salt was permitted to pass into our territory. The line was a device of our Government to protect our revenue in the neighbourhood of these States, as the excessive cheapness of the Sambhur and other salt would otherwise have driven it out of the market. The Native States were in no way answerable for the line. The *Statesman* remarks: "Permitting no transit duties in any part of India where, by pressure upon the Native States, we could enforce their abandonment, we were ourselves transgressors of the greatest magnitude against our own principle. We had maintained a great Southern Customs' Line for the same purpose, in addition to the Rajpootana and Central India Line, while we imposed a gigantic transit duty upon the opium manufactured in Malwa, that simply sought right of way through our territory to the port of Bombay on its way to China." Now, in 1874 Sir Raja Madhava Rao, who was then the Minister of His Highness the Maharaja Holkar, proposed to remodel taxation in the territory of Indore. His proposals were as follows:

(*a*) Food grains to be generally free.
(*b*) Necessaries to be taxed less than luxuries.
(*c*) A few classes of goods only to be liable to taxation.
(*d*) Places of levy to be as few as possible.
(*e*) Rates of levy to be uniform and intelligible.
(*f*) Transit duty to be abolished, only reserving to us the equitable right to levy a toll, fair and moderate, for the use of roads made at our expense and protected by our police.

In order to balance the loss of revenue to be thus surrendered Sir Raja Madhava Rao in his minute on the subject wrote:

It is clear, however, that the reform I contemplate cannot be carried out without considerable loss of revenue; and as improved and improving administration has already entailed much additional expenditure on His Highness's treasury, and this expenditure must still increase, I am not in a position to ask His Highness to sacrifice much revenue in the Sayer Department for the sake of the reforms I have in view.

Anxious, however, as I am to carry out this reform and thereby to bring about the development of trade (specially in reference to the railway approaching completion), I am in need of some external help. I think I may venture to suggest how the British Government may, if it feels disposed, grant us some help.

I may premise that as part of the system to be substituted for the existing one I would propose to DERIVE A SPECIAL REVENUE FROM SALT.

To enable us to derive a special revenue from salt, we must have salt at prime cost.

The assistance I seek at the hands of the British Government is in reference to our obtaining salt from the Bombay pans at prime cost—at the cost at which Bombay salt is permitted by the British Government to be exported beyond the limits of British India.

In other words the British Government to permit us to purchase salt at the Bombay pans at prime cost, and to bring it into our territories free of British duty.

Would the British Government be a loser by this cause? I think not; on the contrary, it would gain. I will endeavour to show how this is.

The salt now consumed in these territories does not come from British India, but comes from native territories, such as Marwar, Joypore, &c. Hence, it cannot be said, that by the course proposed, the British Government would lose any of its present revenue.

As the salt from Bombay would come entirely by rail, there would be no chance of abuses during transit from Bombay to these territories, such as might injure British revenue.

We might bind ourselves to sell the salt at profit not less than that of the British Indian monopoly. This condition would effectually prevent the return of the salt into British territory and it might be understood that the railway should not carry back the salt once brought into our territory.

While the British Government would thus not be a loser I hold it would gain.

The manufacturer of salt at Bombay would feel it an advantage to have a new market thus opened for it in these territories.

The railway would gain by the amount of additional work thus given it.

The salt revenue of the adjacent British territories would be effectually protected against the encroachment of the cheap salt now in use in these territories, and which comes from Jeypore, &c. Such advantage would be the result of our engaging to equalize our rates of profit on salt with those of British India.

It thus strikes me that the assistance I seek might be given by the British Government without difficulty of any kind and even with positive advantage. The measure seems to promise benefit to all parties. I hope I am not greatly mistaken.

I am the more induced to seek this aid because I am at a loss to find the means of compensation in other directions. I mean compensation for the losses which the proposed reforms in the Sayer (Customs) involve. The British Government already taxes our opium very high and realize a revenue of upwards of 10 millions per annum. In the circumstances, the aid sought seems comparatively trifling.

If, on consideration, the plan generally meets with favour, I should be prepared to discuss it more thoroughly and more in detail with any authorities the British Government may be pleased to refer me to.

If the plan in its more matured shape prove acceptable to the British Government and to His Highness the Maharajah considerable advantage may accrue from the same. I submit my own views here as a mere preliminary.

This minute is dated the 16th November 1874; it was approved by the Maharaja Holkar and communicated to the Resident Sir Henry Daly. Sir Henry, however, did not consider it necessary to submit it to the Government of India. He simply shelved it. But in 1875 His Highness visited Calcutta and among other things talked with Lord Northbrook on the subject, who it would seem was much impressed by His Highness's proposals. In addressing the Legislative Council early in 1875, and in adverting to the proposed abolition of the Northern Customs' line, His Lordship said, "I am happy to inform Members of Council that I see hopes—indeed, I may say that I anticipate with confidence—that arrangements may be made which will enable us to overcome this difficulty. One of the most distinguished of the Princes of India, the Maharajah Holkar, is now on a visit to Calcutta. I have had the pleasure of some conversation with His Highness upon the subject, and I am happy to be able to say that so far as the State of Indore is concerned, I believe we shall be able to make a statisfactory arrangement." The Foreign Office called for the minute of Sir Raja Madhava Rao from Sir Henry Daly, and in a D. O. the then Foreign Secretary thus mysteriously wrote to the Resident: "To make any arrangements for the distribution of part of the salt tax levied in British territories between Native States into which such taxed salt is imported, would open other question of taxation in Native States with which the Government of India has no wish to interfere, and would *fetter the freedom of the Maharaja as to his general financial administration*, which the Government of India in no way desires to do." And as we proceed we find the Foreign Office policy more and more in the ascendant. As an interlude we read the following in the *London Statesman*: "The main source of supply was the Sambhur Salt Lake, belonging to the Maharaja of Jeypore. That the steps by which possession of this lake was finally secured to ourselves, were of a character that does not bear to be published, we affirm on the distinct assurance of the late Maharaja, made to us personally, in 1878. The distress of the Prince when narrating to us the story, was extreme, and we are as sure, as of our existence, that if Parliament were exactly informed of what was done in *his* case, it would visit every actor in the business with severest censure." From what we have heard of the Maharaja's feeling on the subject we are in a position to confirm our contemporary's statement. But let that pass. The subjects of the Indore State had up to this time drawn their supply mainly from the Sambhur Lake, but matters were so advanced by March, 1876, that we find Holkar in negotiation with the Government of India at that date for the future supply of his subjects from Bombay. From a letter of Sir Henry Daly to the Maharaja, dated 22nd March, 1876, we make the following extract:—

His Excellency (the Viceroy) explained to your Highness that the Government had fixed Rs. 2-4. per maund as the lowest price at which Baragara salt [salt from the Bombay Government.—Ed could be sold or delivered at Indore. . .

The price is so low, compared with that at which it is sold in British territories, that the Government does not bind itself to sell at this price for a longer period than one year, *that they may see by the result whether this salt can be profitably smuggled back.*

The italics are marked by our contemporary, to whom we are indebted for this and the following extracts. The Holkar naturally inferred, and was plainly intended to infer, that if no such smuggling back resulted from the price being fixed at Rs. 2 4a., the supply would be continued at the rate. Sir Henry Daly added:—

The Viceroy was desirous that your Highness, with the rail at Indore, should be the first to benefit by the measure. . . . . If you find the profits small, which I can hardly believe possible, of course *your demands will be regulated accordingly.*

The plain inference, from the words italicized, our contemporary justly remarks was that the quantity which the Prince might require, or indent for, was a matter to be determined by himself. In strict accordance with this interpretation, the Collector of salt revenue at Bombay had written to Sir Henry Daly on the 13th of the same month as follows:

I have the honour to inform you that I have now received the sanction of Government to supply salt at the price of Rs. 2-4. to His Highness Holkar, and, as already intimated to you by teleg raph, any indents from him will be complied with. . . . . As I understand that His Highness's indents are likely to be large, I would request, for convenience that the salt be obtained in tolerably regular quantities, either daily or on alternate days, or weekly, according to the extent of the demand. Very large indents presented suddenly are likely to embarrass the establishment.

Not a hint of any kind was given that the supply was to be restricted in quantity. The Collector, knowing that the salt was for the supply of the Indore State, believed and expected that the indents would be very large. As a fact, the Holkar himself; Sir Henry Daly the Resident; the Salt Collector; and the Government of India itself, believed and intended that the Holkar was to indent for whatever quantity of salt was required by the State at the price of Rs. 2-4 per maund, which price was to be permanent if, at the end of one year's trial, it was found that the salt could not be "smuggled back" into British territory at that price. But in June 1880 the Maharaja Holkar was informed in consideration of the abolition by His Highness of all dues on salt covered by a pass from the officers of the Inland Customs while in transit through Indore territory, the Government of India will supply annually at Indore 45,000 maunds of salt, or such quantity less than that as may be indented for, at Rs. 2 12a. per maund. So the quantity was restricted and the price was raised, though no proof was given that the original sum of Rs. 2-4 had led to smuggling! What a tale does all this unfold! Our contemporary pertinently remarks:

Holkar is a proud and sensitive Prince, and feels keenly the long injustice of our course towards him in other matters, and the steadfast refusal of the Calcutta Government to undo the wrong which has embittered his mind for the last twenty years. And now this salt business comes on the top of it; and let his opinion of our bad faith be as strong as it may, it is justified by the facts. We are compelling him, by these arrangements, to take the whole supply of salt required by his subjects from ourselves. We bind him to allow no manufacture of salt within his own territories, and compel his people to draw their supply from ourselves raising the price from the low rates at which they have hitherto been accustomed to obtain it, to an equality with the high rates charged in our own territory. Now it was *he* and his Minister, Sir T. Madhava Rao, who proposed this way of abolishing the Salt Line—that sin of our own against our subjects and his own. But then he accompanied it with the equitable and wise stipulation that we should abandon to *him* the duty upon the salt consumed by his subjects, that he might remit a number of imposts he was levying (after old Mahratta custom) to an equivalent amount. The suggestion was a wise and statesmanlike proposal. All we were asked to do was to make no gain by the abandonment of our sin. Holker wanted (as did Jeypore) to take burdens off his people, equal to the new salt excise he was to impose upon them to suit ouf purposes. And they have "jokeyed" him down to this: that for the enormous gain to us of getting the Salt Line done away with, and our excise net thrown over all his subjects he is to be allowed the privilege of receiving 45,000 maunds a-year of salt from the Bombay Government at the rate of Rs. 2 12a. per maund! [The cost price is about 3 annas per maund—ED.] Observe his position under this generous arrangement. The consumption in his State will be—

650,000 into 15 lbs. a year=115,000 maunds.

To this must be added the quantity required for stock and agricultural uses. Indore being a wealthy State, the consumption of salt is probably not less than 150,000 maunds a-year, and in all likelihood a great deal more. Now what we ought to have done, as honest neighbours and rulers, in asking Holkar to take his sult from us, was to offer him the 150,000 maunds at its actual cost price to ourselves on the Indore border, binding him to charge the same price for it that was prevailling in our territories around him. This would have given *him* the excise, and enable him to do

as he suggested, namely, get rid of a lot of imposts that vexed his subjects, and that might be remitted as an equivalent to them for the immense enhancement in the price of salt.

Instead of this, we cut down the allowance we give him to 45,000 maunds, and instead of charging prime cost for it, or even Rs. 2-4a. per maund, we charge him Rs. 2 12a. And there has been "haggling" for years over the questions Shall the price of the 45,000 maunds be Rs. 2 12a. or Rs. 2 4a.? The Prince has been obliged by steady pressure to give up the idea of relieving his subjects to the extent to which the new impost burdens them and to confine his effort to obtaining *one-third* of the supply he requires, at eight annas per maund lower price than they want to charge him for it. And Sir Lepel Griffin, the present Resident ventures to talk of the Prince having got so much the best of the bargain that it ought to be revised in the interests of the Government of India! This is the spirit in which we are to-day ruling the whole country. Will Parliament continue to tolerate it?

Comments on the above are superfluous. Here is a good example of the way our Government deals with the Native States. We can only say —behold and admire!

THE CIVIL SERVICE SALARIES.

IN no other civilized country is the Civil Service so highly paid as it is in India. The Secretaries to the Government of India are paid at a rate, which is deemed quite sufficient for the Prime Minister and the Principal Secretaries of State in England. The chief Secretaries to the Government of India draw Rs. 50,000 per annum, while Mr. Gladstone, Lord Hartington, and other Ministers are paid £5,000. It is needless for us to say that there is no manner of comparison between the status of the offices in England and India, between the intellectual requirements of the two, the hard work they involve, and the high moral and political responsibilities they entail. The same observations apply to the salaries paid to the other officers of the Covenanted Civil Service in India. As a writer in a recent number of *Fraser's Magazine* says," the remuneration at present paid to the service follows the scale fixed by Lord Cornwalis more than a century ago. At that time the voyage to India occupied upwards of a year, and it was impossible to recieve a reply to a letter in less than two years. Looking to the perils of the sea, the great amount of sickness and disease then prevalent in India, the insalubrity of the climate, the difficulty and delay, involved in travelling from one part of the country to another, the insecurity of life and property, and the general corruption and profligacy of the times—a high scale of pay was needed to take men to India, and to keep them honest when there. But all this has now passed away. From Charing Cross to Peshawur the boundaries of our frontier, the enterprising traveller can be carried in three weeks,—a journey which, in the days of Lord Cornwallis, could only have been accomplished in as many years, and then at ten times the cost. The telegraph has brought India within speaking distance of Europe; and Railway travelling is as expeditious and safe, but cheaper there than it is at home. The introduction of good drainage, pure water, gas, and other conveniencies of life, with the establishment of hill sanataria, have so lessened the death-rate, that the average health of the Anglo-Indian, and his chances of attaining to middle age, are in no way inferior to those of his untravelled brother. In these circumstances a scale of remuneration fixed in 1772 needs some revision now. In point of fact, a privileged class upon a privileged pay in these levelling and competitive times is an anachronism. It is a luxury which the country cannot afford; and justice and equity, the Indian press, and the interests of the natives, call for a considerable reduction of salaries. A service in which there are all prizes and no blanks can well afford the abolition of a few sinecure appointments, and a general toning down of pay. No deterioration will be caused thereby. Men of the same social status and mental calibre will continue to be attracted to India. A Covenanted Civilian on arrival receives £900 a year. In 12 months, £600. In 3 years, £1,000 to £1,200, and £2,000 in 15 years. The civil list shows there are several officers of 11 years' actual service receiving considerably more: and, at the present time, there is only one Civilian in the Bengal Presidency of 25 years residence, who receives so low a salary as £3,000." The truth of the matter is that the old scale of pay was fixed as the price of expatration from home. In all other respects India of to-day has changed from the India of 1772; why should the salaries of the Civil Service remain unchanged? The days of Indian Nabobism and *kaibaism* are gone, why should the old Indian scale of pay be continued? In the olden days although the purchasing power of the rupee was greater, there was scarcely a Civilian, who was not in his creditor's books, because his princely income was not quite adequate to meet his still more princely style of living. The Civilians of the present day live in chummeries, when their predecessors used to live in palaces; are content with photos and prints as ornaments for their rooms when the latter used to revel in oil paintings and marble, and drive about in one-horse buggy when the latter used to keep quite a rich and crowded stud. So the habits and tastes of the Civilians of the present day have changed with the circumstances of the time, and they ought not to grumble if a scale of pay were fixed for them consistently with their stations in life. But this is only a part of the question. The chief argument for reduction of salaries of the Indian Civil Service is that the value of intellectual labour at the present day being much lower than before, it is but fair that the Government of India should get the benefit of the market. The Government has reduced the salaries of Munsifs and Deputy Magistrates because educated natives are now much cheaper than before. On the same principle when well educated Englishmen, not a bit inferior to the general run of men, who now fill the Indian Civil Service, can be got on almost half their salaries, we see no reason why we should continue to take a dear article. Take for instance the Education Department. The emoluments of this Department are certainly much less than those of the Civil Service, and yet the men, who usually come to the higher grades of the educational service, after necessary training, would answer equally well for the Civil Service. Then, again, the privations of life in India being now much less than in days gone by, we do not see any reason why we should compensate the present class of English workers here at the olden rate. As the writer in *Fraser* says, "the holders of most of these high offices in India draw as much as the Prime Minister of England; and some of them more than twice his salary. It cannot be pretended that they are more important or more exalted, or more laborious offices: the fiction of the drawbacks of exile has long since disappeared: and more healthy and pleasant climates cannot be desired than the plains of India in winter and the cool Himalayan retreats in summer which these highly favoured officials enjoy. Finally, after a service of 25 years,—four of which may be spent on leave—the Civilian is entitled upon retirement to an annuity of £1,000 a year."

We would reduce the Civil Service salaries by abolishing the present invidious distinction between the Covenanted and Uncovenanted; we would reserve a few of the highest appointments for Englishmen, which political considerations require should be filled by picked men from England, and throw the rest open to educated Indians and Europeans who have made India their home. As the writer in *Fraser* says of his own suggestions, so we say of our own in his words: "In these suggestions great economical reforms are hinted at. No pretence is made of discussing the measures; the arguments for and against are familiar as household words to all in India. Upon the whole the consensus of opinion is certainly in favor of reduction; but who will lay the axe to the root of the tree of vested class, in which [illegible] rights and privileges, and reform can only be hoped for, if the weight of public opinion in England forces the question before Parliament." But we go further. We are of opinion that no one is better fitted to handle this question and to solve it satisfactorily than Lord Ripon, and his Chancellor of the Exchequer, Major Baring. The latter thoroughly understands India, and as he is a man of strong convictions, if he will but see the justice and necessity of the measures we recommend, we do not think he is likely to give in to "vested interests," however powerful. And if we can thus secure the support of Lord Ripon and Major Baring, we may confidently rely upon that of Her Majesty's Government, for whatever may receive the support of Mr. Gladstone, the British nation is sure to seal it with its sanction.

ELECTION TO REPRESENTATIVE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLIES IN EUROPE.

Now that Lord Ripon has resolved to concede to the people of India the important privilege of local self-government, it is interesting to enquire what is the practice followed in the countries of Europe in constituting the legislative assemblies, which, be it remembered, generally wield the power of the purse. Representative institutions in Europe are of recent growth, but it is noteworthy that the elections generally are not open to the same corrupt practices that prevail in England. With a view to collect reliable information on the subject Lord Granville lately issued a circular to H. M's Representatives at certain European countries inviting them to furnish him with information respecting "the practice on contests for election to representative legislative assemblies, the restriction and the payment of such contests." Further: 1. What portion of the expenditure is borne out of local or imperial funds? 2. Whether "ballottage" exists in cases where no one candidate obtains a clear majority of votes given at the first election? 3. If so, what is the additional absolute and relative expenditure incurred by such "ballottage"? In addition to the above particulars were called for concerning corrupt election practices and the mode of their detection and repression. A Parliamentary paper containing the information on the above points has been published, from which we give the following summary:

Austria.—The Austrian electoral system is very complicated, different processes being employed in the case of different categories of electors. The large landed proprietors, for instance, may vote by proxy. In this class females also may vote. In towns, each qualified voter is an elector. In villages and country districts, on the other hand, a body of electors, by whom again the Parliamentary Representative is to be named, is chosen out of the number of the qualified voters. Even the manner of voting is not universally the same, each province being free to adopt the particular methods employed in elections to seats in its own Provincial Assembly. The expense of conducting elections to the Reichsrath seems to be borne altogether by the State, the candidates defraying only their personal canvassing charges, which are slight.

Belgium.—At Parliamentary and provincial elections, the President of the Tribunal of First Instance, or in his absence, his substitute, is Chairman of the principal Board. If there exist several sections, the second and following ones are presided over by one of the Judges or Deputy Judges, according to seniority, and if needful, by the persons whom the Chairman of the principal Board selects among those voters who do not hold offices liable to removal. When the number of candidates proposed does not exceed that of the members to be elected, these members are elected and returned, whatever may be the number of votes they have obtained. When the number of candidates exceeds that of the members to be elected, no one is elected at the first round of the scrutiny unless he obtains more than half the [illegible] of the cantons. All the other expenses and supplies relative to the electoral operations, with the exception of electoral lists concerning several communes, which are borne by the province, are sustained by the commune where the election takes place. Severe penalties are provided for corrupt practices of any kind.

France.—Elections in France to the Chamber of Deputies are generally contested by two or more candidates, but there are in fact no expenses similar to those in England. The "Scrutateurs," or officials who examine the ballot boxes and count the votes, are not paid; the polling places are in some public building; the police are not remunerated for the occasion, and the voters are

not brought to the poll in vehicles hired by the candidates. The polling places are, indeed, so numerous that there is sure to be one within easy reach of each elector, so that in general he has nothing to do but to walk to it with his voting paper, give that paper in, and walk out again. The public expenses are borne by the State. Thus, the State pays for everything that is published relating to the electoral lists, as well as for the notices to electors with reference to voting. The Municipalities are put to no expense with reference to these elections. The candidates need not spend much money. The election of Deputies to the Chamber is regulated by the 18th Article of the Organic Law of the 30th November, 1875. This Article declares that no one is elected at the first ballot if he has not obtained (*a*) the absolute majority of the votes given; (*b*) a number of votes, there is "ballottage," that is, a second election, which takes place on the second Sunday following the day of the first return. On this occasion that candidate is elected in whose favour the relative majority of votes is recorded, whatever the number of voters may be. If an equal number of votes is given to two candidates, the older of the two is declared elected. The State pays the same expenses at the second election as it does at the first. Hence no portion of the expenditure at elections is taken out of local funds. The constituencies in France are too large for any system of wholesale bribery to succeed, and no regular practice of giving money by the candidate or his agents to the electors exist. Corrupt practices are punished by imprisonments and fines.

Germany.—So far as the German Empire is concerned, imperial funds bear no part of the expenditure. But it is at the expense of provinces, districts, and Municipalities that polling-places are hired and kept open, that ballots are held, votes counted and declarations of polls made. When no one candidate has obtained a clear majority of votes, and a new "ballottage" takes places in consequence, the expense is borne exactly as before. The system of election in Germany varies. For the Empire, ballot and manhood suffrage. For Prussia, election by classes, so that primary electors choose secondary electors whose duty it is to elect a Member of Parliament. The franchise differs in most of the States, but in no case is the practice of electioneering so developed that a regular system can be said to have been established in reference to the conduct of electoral contests. It is well understood that elections involve expenditure of money, and it is stated that a general election for the Reichstag does not cost much less than a million of marks a side. Corruption is punishable under the Criminal Code, but it is reported that the law has not had much practicable application.

Italy.—In cases of contested elections the expenditure is borne by the Fund of the Chamber of Deputies, which fund appears in the General Budget of the State, and should it prove insufficient, the Chamber is called upon to vote an increase. If at the first election no one candidate obtains a clear majority (*i.e.*, half the number of votes *plus* one, and one-third of the votes inscribed of the electoral lists), a "ballottage" takes place between the two candidates who have obtained the largest number of votes. The "ballottage" entails no expense to the candidate. In all elections, Commission of the Chamber is annulment, or suspension. In case proceedings corrupt practices a second inquiry is instituted by the Permanent Commission, and, if proved, the latter recommends to the Chamber the annulment of the election and the prosecution of the guilty parties, in accordance with the Rules of the Chamber and the Penal Code.

Netherlands.—There do not exist in the Netherlands any legal measures for the purpose of restricting the expenses of individuals engaged in the elections, which generally take place in a very orderly manner. As a rule, the electors who, in the different electoral divisions, share the same opinions, form associations which have for their object the choice of candidates, whose names are announced by means of advertisements in the newspapers, printed bills posted in the streets, &c. It is by no means rare that individuals are inscribed as electors in virtue of a patent fee paid for some profession which they are supposed to practise, but which in reality they do not practise, while others enable them to pay this fee and thus assure themselves of their vote. Such acts are evidently contrary to the spirit of the Fundamental Law, but by the terms of the Electoral Law it is not possible to prevent electors created by such means from recording their vote. Although there is little use made in the Netherlands of illegal means for obtaining suffrages, Articles 125-130 of Penal Code, recently adopted, treat, nevertheless, of cases of bribery, of violence, and other corrupt practices, which might arise at elections. As regards the expenses they occasion, it results from Article 205 of the Communal Law that each parish must bear the expenses of electoral business, the execution of which is entrusted to the care of the parish authorities. Even when there is occasion to have recourse to a second voting (scrutiny of "ballottage"), these expenses are generally of little importance. For contested elections the rule to be followed is fixed by Article 103 of the Electoral Law. At a first voting no one is elected except by an absolute majority of votes; if this majority has not been obtained, a second voting takes place by the simple plurality of votes; if at this second voting there is an equality of votes, the elder of the two candidates is declared elected; if they are of the same age, lots are drawn.

Portugal.—The kingdom is divided into electoral districts ("circulos"), (137 in the continent and adjacent islands, and 12 in the Colonies), not corresponding with the local administrative divisions, which are the district, the "Concelho" or Municipality, and the parish. Each Municipality has, for electoral purposes, local or Imperial indiscriminately, to form a Revising Committee of seven persons chosen by and from amongst the forty principal taxpayers of the "Concelho," provision being made for the representation of the minority. The Portugese law contains provisions for the elections, which are very much in the hands of the various Revising Committees; but great care has been taken against any abuse on their part by a series of regulations, by which the protest of any elector must receive immediate attention, within a fixed number of days, and should it be rejected by the Revising Committee, appeal is provided for to the "Concelho de Districto" in the first place, and then to the different Courts of Justice, up to the Supreme Court of Appeal, each Court being compelled under penalties to adjudicate on the case within a specified term. Actions can also be brought by private persons against Government officials for any dereliction of duty without the previous consent of the Government; and in case of the conviction of an official the penalty attached to the offence is doubled. Insuring to the citizen the free exercise of his electoral franchise, theoretically, they provide fully against intimidation or tampering with the lists, ballot boxes, and returns. Practically, however, according to universal opinion, the elections always give an overwhelming majority to the Government which conducts them. All legitimate expenses connected with elections, such as books, paper, urns, boxes, &c., are defrayed by the Municipality. In cases where no one candidate obtains an absolute majority of votes given at the first election a second election takes place, and that candidate is elected who obtains a relative majority. The stationery, &c., involved in the amount of paper, original formalities. When the Chamber of Deputies meets their first duty is to verify the different elections; but this would appear to be a formal proceeding, and rather an investigation of the technical validity of the papers than an inquiry into any matters which would render official or any other persons liable to penal proceedings.

Spain.—Electoral expenses, that is to say those incurred by the constitution of the electoral Colleges and the electoral lists are defrayed out of the Municipal funds. The expenses of agents and others incurred in connection with objections to voters and the rectification of the electoral lists are borne by the candidate. The Tribunals act gratuitously in these cases. No portion of the incidental expenditure is properly defrayed by Imperial funds. Every precaution is taken to prevent a double election and "ballottage." The Deputies are elected by a simple relative majority of the electors of the several districts. In the event of two candidates obtaining the same number of votes, the question is referred to the Cortes, which decides it in accordance with the Electoral Law. A second election therefore rarely takes place, but should it do so in a case where the election is necessarily declared null, the same expenses are incurred as for the first election. With regard to the incidental expenses of candidates, they have lately amounted to as much as 2,000*l.* This sum is spent more or less in bribery, notwithstanding the dispositions of the Electoral Law. Formerly the ordinary expenses of an election were about 200*l.*, spent chiefly in bringing the electors to the poll and furnishing refreshments. The extension of the franchise has considerably increased the incidental expenses of candidates, and has tended to promote corrupt practices. The kind of corruption, which prevails in the electoral system of Spain is that which results from administrative centralization, and the means thus afforded of exercising Government influence. Even the secret vote by ballot does not secure the independence of the voter voting under such circumstances. Administrative centralization has also led to the adoption of the system of Government candidates, who are imposed as such on the constituencies which, as may be imagined, are easily induced to acquiesce in such nomination.

Denmark.—In Denmark the whole of the expenditure caused by contests for election to the Legislative Assembly is borne by the public, and is paid out of local funds. In Copenhagen the expenses of such contests are defrayed by the treasury of the commune. Out of Copenhagen and in cases where the electoral district extends over several communes, it is the business of the Returning Officer to assess the share to be borne in proportion to its population by each of these communes, and every such commune is bound to pay in the amount to which it is thus assessed within fourteen days after being called on by the Returning Officer to do so. An election is decided by a simple majority of votes, and in cases where the candidates receive an equal number of votes, the Returning Officer (himself always an elector) gives the casting vote. There is therefore, no after "ballottage." Lastly, it is stated that bribery or corruption at elections are so little known in Denmark—be this due to the above safeguards or to the character of the people—that there is hardly on record a single instance of these offences having been brought before the public.

We have given above a succint account of the electoral system in the countries of Europe. If local self-government is to be introduced into India, it ought to be based on the elective principle. But the adoption of this principle must be tentative. It can be tried with any prospect of success only in large towns.

CALCUTTA AND BOMBAY.

THE reader will recollect that not long ago the grain merchants of Northern India had in a memorial to the Agent of the East Indian Railway complained of the differential rates of goods traffic by rail between Bombay and Calcutta. The subject we observe was lately laid before the Government of India by the Government of Bombay from Northern India between the Great Indian Peninsula and Bombay, Baroda, and Central India Railway Companies. Three points are noticed by the Government of India. (1.) Proposed competition, by assimilation of rates between the two existing railway routes from Delhi and Agra to Bombay. (2.) Proposed "pooling" arrangement for the division of freights of what is to be considered competitive traffic. (3.) Equalization of rates between Delhi and Howrah and between Delhi and Bombay. With regard to the first point His Excellency the Viceroy in Council remarks that "as the

mileage from Delhi to Bombay is 889 via Ahmedabad and 1,230 via Jubbulpore, it is evident that any fairly remunerative through rate for the shorter distance would be unprofitable for the long route. The idea, therefore, of assimilating these rates cannot be contemplated, and the Government of India is not prepared to sanction any reduction of the East Indian Railway share of such charges. The claim of the Great Indian and Peninsula Railway Company to share in this traffic cannot be recognised, and even were this the case, the recent enhancement of grain rates on that railway points to the conclusion that the large reduction of charges necessary for competition would render the through rates unremunerative." With reference to the proposed arrangement for pooling the through traffic which may find its way to Bombay from or via Delhi and Agra, His Excellency in Council can see no necessity for an arrangement which could only be equitably carried out on the basis of equal or nearly equal mileage, as pointed out by the officers of the Bombay, Baroda, and Central India Railway Company. As at present proposed, therefore, the arrangement cannot be accepted for the State lines interested, nor for the East Indian Railway. On the third point the Government of India expresses a decided opinion, viz., that the rates between Bombay and Delhi or Agra via Ahmedabad shall be the same as nearly as practicable as the charges between Howrah and Delhi or Agra prior to the through opening of the Rajpootana Railway. The orders in Public Works Department Resolution No. 1083, 1095½, of 8th September 1880, prescribed definite mileage rates for freight over the Rajpootana State Railway, and also laid down the important principle that after the 1st July 1881 if that line was sufficiently stocked the "through" rates for conveyance of minerals, mineral substances, and agricultural produce between Agra or Delhi and Bombay shall be reduced so as to equal similar charges on the East Indian Railway between Agra or Delhi and Calcutta. It was never intended that the equalization of rates to the two ports was to be restricted to these articles, they were selected as the goods which are carried in bulk, and which ordinarily form the largest staples of traffic over Indian Railways. But in order that there will be no doubt on the subject, His Excellency the Governor-General in Council is pleased to rule that the "principle of equalization of rates from Delhi and Agra to the ports of Calcutta and Bombay," must form the basis of consideration of all changes in the through rates of traffic between these several places. His Excellency in Council remarks:

There can be no doubt that the competition for the export and import traffic of Northern India between the ports of Calcutta and Bombay will tend to a diminution of railway freights and port charges, and will thereby give an impetus to the existing traffic. It may also be considered by persons interested in commercial ventures that the freight charges in Indian railways are still too high for a proper development of traffic. This may be so, and doubtless as the traffic on the trunk lines continues to increase, the working expenses will decrease relatively, and reductions in freight will be made to induce further traffic. But the Government of India has too large a stake in its railways—both guaranteed and State—to permit such reductions to be made except in the most carefully considered and impartial manner, and it cannot allow the agents and managers of lines to combine together to monopolize traffic at the expense of other lines of Railway. The desire of each railway management is naturally to increase the traffic of its line to the utmost, and local Governments have an equally natural desire to promote local interests even if it be at the expense of other localities; it is therefore necessary that all alterations in railway freight charges, which will affect more than one local interest, should be considered impartially. The Government has power over the rates of guaranteed railways only over certain maxima, but it possesses full power in the matter of fluctuations of rates on the East India Railway and all other State lines. His Excellency the Governor-General in Council is therefore pleased to order that all proposed alterations of rates on the East Indian Railway and on State Railways, which would affect through rates and be in any way competitive with the rates on other routes, be referred to the Government of India for approval before introduction. The Government of India has already instructed its Consulting Engineer at Calcutta to this effect; and the Government of Bombay is now requested similarly to instruct its Consulting Engineer as regards through rates over the Rajpootana, Railway.

For the general welfare of the country it is immaterial whether its surplus produce finds an outlet via Calcutta, Bombay, Kurrachi or other ports, provided that the course of trade is unfettered by artifi cial obstacles. The lines of railways which the State has been instrumental in providing have been constructed for the purpose of carrying goods as well as passengers at the lowest rates consistent with yeilding a fair and reasonable return on the capital laid out. As trade increases these rates will decrease; but the ultimate limit of legitimate competition between the various lines must be regulated by their capabilities of making an equally fair profit from the traffic they carry.

The Government of India is quite willing to recognise the merits of competition, and is well aware that it stimulates and promotes traffic in the end but the disastrous policy of reckless competition indulged in by many of the English and American lines of railway has taught the world a lesson that must not be ignored. It is the duty of the Government of India to prevent, as far as it lies in its power all tendency towards unhealthy competition, and it is therefore necessary to view the entire Indian railway system as a whole without any partiality towards particular provinces or special lines, whether State or guaranteed.

We thank Lord Ripon for this impartial decision. The question of an unhealthy competition between Bombay and Calcutta has been set at rest. What we want for Calcutta is a fair field and no favour, and the decision of Lord Ripon is eminently calculated to accomplish that object.

P. W. D.

A SECRET agitation we hear is going on among the officers of the Public Works Department for further concessions. The promoters of this agitation seem to assume a strong feeling of discontent, which has pervaded the Service for several years, and the sum and substance of complaint may be said to be a dissappointment with its average prospects or emoluments. In other words the Service is not specially attractive under its present conditions, and it does not offer sufficient inducements to educated young men. What are the data for these statements we know not, but we are gravely told that "the repute of the Service has already suffered amongst the profession in England, and though this is,it is probable, traceable to two causes for which no blame whatever can be attached to the Government, viz: the reductions of 1879 and the depreciated value of the rupee—there is, therefore, need for some measure which will rehabilitate the Service in the estimation of the public. Three-fourths of the total number of officers in the Service are civil engineers. If this proportion is to continue the fact should have very considerable influence on any proposals for re-organization. It must be admitted that it is very difficult for the Government to determine the extent to which the prospects of the Service should be improved to the satisfaction of the civil engineers, and little help can be got in this direction by comparing the value of the services and the remuneration of the engineer with that of other officers in other departments. The main object, indeed the sole one, is to ensure that the Service as a whole shall further be efficient and pure, and shall offer a career sufficient to attract a certain proportion of really good men for the higher adminstrative appointments. It is certain that the present prospects of the Service hardly suffice to fulfil these conditions." So the Department is not satisfied with the plunder which Sir Andrew Clarke's retiring scheme threw into its lap. Men who would have pined away for years without promotion or increase of pay have received liberal pensions and bonuses, while the room made by the retirement of the seniors has helped the juniors to get unexpected rapid promotion. And yet these are not satisfied. They want still more rapid promotion. They say: "What is needed is some measure that will bring the younger men forward in to positions of responsibility much earlier than has hitherto been possible and the only real solution of the difficulty lies in the *improvement of the retiring rules.*" "These rules were not framed to meet the conditions of an engineer Service, and a serious and most objectionable feature in them is that the pensions were (and still are) made payable *in rupees.* When the rules were made there was no hardship in this, as the rupees stood at or above par. Now there is a loss of 16 to 20 per cent in converting it into sterling. Thus all the small savings are reduced and the pension too! It seems very hard indeed that the Government should contemplate without movement such a serious diminution in the value of the pensions of their servants. It is not as if the cost of living in India was lower than in former days and savings made easier. The reverse is the case. It is more difficult to save and yet pension is reduced, and what is worse quite uncertain in amount. The pensions of the Indian Army, the Covenanted Civil Service and others are paid in sterling and we urge that we should not be treated differently. This would doubtless involve an increase in the pension list, but it is difficult to see the wisdom or justice of throwing the loss wholly on the worked-out servant." The promoters of the movement also urge the increase of the pay of the Service. If the arguments advanced by them should hold good, they ought to hold good equally in the case of all European officers serving in India, be they engineers, civil servants, medical men or military officers. But while the pay and pensions of all other officers remain the same, the officers of the Public Works Department consider themselves poorly paid and parade their grievances. They have put forth the following scheme for the redress of their grievances:

1.—Retirement from the Department to be absolutely enforced for all Military and Civil Officers at the age of 55 years, or on completion of 30 years service.

2.—Retirement with pension to be claimable on completion of 20 years' service.

3.—Officers who do not attain the rank of Supd. Engineer on completion of 25 years' service, or on attaining the age of 50 years. to be retired.

4.—Officers who do not attain the rank of Executive Engineer, on completion of 12 years' service from the date of obtaining rank of second grade Assistant Engineer, to be retired.

5.—Chief Engineers 1st Class and officers ranking with them, to be retired on completion of 5 years service in such appointments.

6.—Pension to be on a graduated scale according to length of approved service, and paid in sterling at 10 rupees to the sovereign.

7.—The same amount of furlough as under the present more favourable rules for civil engineers appointed by Secretary of State to count as service for pension.

8.—Pension for service from ten up to twenty years to be granted only on Medical Certificate of incapacity for further service or on compulsory retirement.

9.—With the above restrictions pensions to be as follows:—

	on completion of				
On Medical Certificate.	10 years	15/16	of average salary	limited to	£ 100
	11 „	16/60	„	„	„ 130
	12 „	17/60	„	„	„ 160
	13 „	18/60	„	„	„ 190
	14 „	19/60	„	„	„ 220
	15 „	20/60	„	„	„ 250
	16 „	21/60	„	„	„ 270
	17 „	22/60	„	„	„ 310
	18 „	23/60	„	„	„ 340
	19 „	24/60	„	„	„ 380
	20 „	25/60	„	„	„ 400
	21 „	26/60	„	„	„ 420
	22 „	27/60	„	„	„ 440
	23 „	28/60	„	„	„ 460
	24 „	29/60	„	„	„ 480
	25 „	30/60	„	„	„ 500
	26 „	30/60	„	„	„ 520
	27 „	30/60	„	„	„ 540
	28 „	30/60	„	„	„ 560
	29 „	30/60	„	„	„ 580
	30 „	30/60	„	„	„ 600

10.—A deduction to be made from the salaries of all Civil Engineers in the Department sufficient to enable Government to pay all men who retire from the service a pension of 50 per cent. in excess of that to which they would be entitled under para 9.

How modest is the scheme! But the best part of the joke is that these superior men are not without a touch of compunction for the native members of the service. They would put them out of their own sacred pale and relegate them as "local engineers." This is what they say: "The future of the Department will probably be that there will be a small compact body of European Engineers supplemented by a large body of Natives on proportionately reduced pay, and there can be no doubt that this might be initiated at once. Much work that is now done by highly educated young Englishmen might equally well or be better done by Natives of good character and suitable education. They would not require to be paid at the same rate as the European Engineer and hence a large saving would be made in course of time in the cost of the Department. There should be attached to the Department a class of Native Engineers which should correspond with the "Clerks of Works" in England and they should be able to rise from say 50 rupees a month to 500 as a maximum. These men should be kept as far as possible to their own provinces and called by the name of "Local Engineers" service or some such title. Especially deserving and able men should be moved into the Engineer branch; but it is certain that only a small proportion would be fitted for the transfer for want of sufficient energy, decision and trustworthiness, nevertheless the claim should be steadily recognized as a possible reward for exceptional ability and good service." How just and generous! The natives must not expect to rise beyond the rank of "clerks of works." In other words they must remain hewers of wood and drawers of water. We are told that General Strachey favours this scheme. But we cannot believe that Lord Ripon and Major Baring will lend their countenance to it.

LATEST NEWS AND NOTES.

As yet we have received a tardy response to our appeal on behalf of the "Northbrook Indian Society and Club." Possibly the immediate intervention of Durga Puja following the issue of our appeal has interfered with prompt reply. We hope, however, that as Durga Puja is over, our appeal will now receive a generous consideration from those to whom it is addressed. In the meantime we have much pleasure in publishing the following from Maharani Sarat Sundari of Putea:

Dear Sir,—It is with very great pleasure that I have read your printed letter with reference to the "Northbrook Indian Society and Club." The objects, the Institution has in view, are, no doubt of great moment to our country, and as such our heart-felt gratitude is due to Lord Northbrook whose name has been a household word with us for his doing so much for this country. I beg also to accord you my best thanks for the great interest you evince in the case of the Northbrook Indian Society and Club.

I humbly beg to contribute Rs. 500 five hundred in aid of the Fund.

Your's truly,
Sarat Sunduri Debya.

Dated Putea Rajbari the 23rd October 1881.

We hope the good example of the virtuous and generous Maharani of Putea will have a salutary effect.

We are exceedingly sorry to learn that Mr. Sashia Sastri, C. S. I., who was appointed in 1879 a member of the Governor-General's Council for making laws and regulations, has been prevented by ill-health from taking his seat in the Council. The reader will recognize him as the late Dewan of Travancore; he is at present the Dewan of the little state of Puducottah. He is a man of remarkable attainments and ability, large and varied experience, great breadth of mind and high character. It is much to be regretted that owing to his ill-health the Council is deprived of his valuable services.

We are sorry to observe that the Calcutta Missionaries are taking to the aggressive in the dissemination of the Gospel. Apparently some one of them has posted a placard in the Native Town denouncing idolatry. It is headed—"Abominable idolatries." Then follow some verses from the Bible condemnatory of idolatry, and the placard ends thus—"Inhabitants of Bengal awake from the sleep of Superstition and save yourselves and your country from the abominations of idolatry." The placard bears no signature. A translation is given, which is Missionary Bengali. It is calculated to offend much the religious feeling of the masses, who do not understand English, and who cannot therefore be expected to appreciate the teaching in the text, but who may not unnaturally regard the ridicule cast upon their gods and goddesses as stocks and stones to be a wanton insult to their religion. But it is the manner of the publication to which we object. If Christian Missionaries are allowed to placard their anathemas of idolatry in this fashion, the Hindus and Mahomedans may follow their example and denounce Christianity in their own way. Surely this sort of "placarding" religious animosities is not calculated to foster mutual good feeling and harmony. Besides, we doubt whether the Commissioner of Police should allow placards of this kind without any signature to be posted in the town without his permission.

We thank Messrs. Newman and Co. for a copy of Dr. Rajendralala Mitra's latest work, entitled "Indo-Aryans." It is exceedingly well got up and has all the look of an English publication. It comprises essays written by the learned author at different times. These essays are valuable contributions to the elucidation of the ancient and mediæval history of Indo-Aryans. Whether we regard them as historical and antiquarian researches or as literary performances we do not hesitate to say that they would do honor to any scholar in Europe. We propose to review the work in an early issue.

The Medical Faculty of the Calcutta University have recommended to the Syndicate a course of action, which will practically abolish the M. B. degree. They have proposed that no medical student shall be eligible to the degree of M. B., who may not have passed in Latin. Now Latin is not taught in our schools and colleges, and medical students cannot therefore be expected to know it. Consequently they cannot hope to obtain the M. B. degree. If the Faculty were honest, they should have plainly reported to the Syndicate that they considered the conferral of the M. B. degree on Indian students undesirable and would therefore abolish it. But by veiling their intention in this way they have apparently followed Talleyrand's aphorism—language is given to man to conceal his thoughts. The Medical Faculty is for the most part composed of the Professors of the Medical College, and one would think that they would be proud of their students winning high academic honors, but the reverse seems to be the case. It remains to be seen what action the Syndicate and the Senate will take in this matter. By all means raise the standard of examination if you like, but do not prescribe a subject, which the educational system followed here does not enable them to learn. Let there be honesty at least in matters of education.

Allen's Indian Mail, October, has the following:

The same authority (*Times'* Calcutta correspondent) makes the very important announcement that an educational "commission" (query, committee?) will assemble in Calcutta during the coming winter "to inquire into the working of the Educational Despatch of 1854. It will be also considered the question of the education of the masses and the encouragement of higher education by private enterprise." We trust that this measure does not indicate any immediate intention of the Government to contract the range of its operation in aid of the higher education of the country. We cannot yet a while, at least, afford to withdraw from operations that have given to India the men who now are leading the van of civilisation in that country. For the intelligent development of the resources of the country we need a large number of highly-educated men and the duty of producing them must not be resigned to "private enterprise" until we are quite sure that private enterprise is equal to the task. In view of the extreme unpopularity that must attend—and hitherto, we believe has justly attended—any sudden advance in this direction, we trust that Lord Ripon's Government will exercise the greatest caution in making the nominations for this extremely important commission.

We entirely concur. We do not know who will comprise the Committee. We are, however, glad to hear that Mr. Lethbridge, the late Press Commissioner, has offered his services for the Committee. Mr. Lethbridge is peculiarly fitted to serve on the proposed Education Committee. He was a distinguished member of the Bengal Education Service, and as Secretary to the Text-Book Committee of 1877 he had an opportunity to study and review the different phases of the education system prevalent in the different provinces of India. Above all, he fully sympathises with the intellectual aspirations of the people of India.

The Resolution of the Government of India on the destruction of wild animals and venomous snakes in British India, published in the last *Gazette of India*, affords a flood of light on the working of the Arms Act. The following statement shews the number of persons and cattle killed:

	Number of persons killed.				
	1876.	1877.	1878.	1879.	1880.
Total ...	19,273	19,695	20,256	20,812	21,990
	Number of cattle killed.				
	1876.	1877.	1878.	1879.	1880.
Total ...	54,830	53,197	48,701	55,911	58 386

The above figures, as the Resolution of the Government of India says, show that the total number of persons killed in the several Provinces has gradually increased from 19,273 in 1876 to 21,990 in 1880. The largest number of deaths occurred in Bengal and the North-Western Provinces and Oudh, in which Provinces the deaths during the year under report aggregated 11,359 and 5,284 respectively. In Bengal 10,064 deaths were caused by snake-bite, and 359 persons were killed by tigers: while in the North-Western Provinces and Oudh 4,723 persons died from snake-bite, and 265 were killed by wolves. The total number of wild animals destroyed has fallen year by year from 23,459 in 1876 to 18,641 in 1879 and 14,886 in 1880. This untoward result is plainly due to the working of the Arms Act. His Excellency the Viceroy in Council again expresses his hope that "in tracts where wild animals abound licenses under the Arms Act will be freely given by the local officers. The reports assert that this is the case, but the falling-off in the number of wild animals destroyed is unsatisfactory." Quite so. We repeat the operation of the Act ought to be confined to those districts or villages only, which are inhabited by unruly and lawless people. All other districts ought to be exempted.

We have much pleasure in giving the following extract from a letter from London:

Your remarks on the concessions made to the Bengal Central Railway Co. are certainly well founded. I understand that smaller concessions would have satisfied the Rothschilds, but for the Government reserving the power to purchase the line hereafter. This power is claimed as necessary for the protection of the financial interests of the public; but it is all moonshine, for experience shews that the Government are unable to work the line as economically and efficiently as private companies in India, and the difference will be greater when the guarantee being reduced and limited in duration, the Companies will have to rely on good management to earn dividends. The East India Railway would not, since its purchase by Government, have been worked as efficiently as it has been, had not a stake in the undertaking and the management been left to the former Company.

You are also not far from the mark where you say that "it is all the same to India whether a Conservative or a Liberal Government rule at the Indian Office."

No one, who heard the Liberals accuse the late Conservative Ministry of buying the support of Manchester Spinners with Indian money obtained through oppressive and demoralizing taxation, would have believed that precisely the same should have been followed by the Liberals when they came into power; and that Lord Hartington would have gone further in the same direction, by promising the total repeal of the Cotton duties. This will I sincerely hope, convince the people of India that nothing but pressure exercised by them, will enable them to obtain the smallest measure of justice from those in whose hands circumstances have placed the destinies of India.

From the utterances of the members and supporters of the present Government, India was entitled to expect the repeal of the Vernacular Report Act, the Arms Act and the License Tax and reimposition of the Cotton duties, as well as a fair adjustment of the Afghan War cost. The Act of 1858 for the better Government of India distinctly provides in section 55, that "excepting for preventing or repelling actual invasion, or under sudden and urgent necessity the revenue of India shall not without the consent of both Houses of Parliament, be applicable to defray the expense of any military operation carried on beyond the frontiers."

When Parliament quietly submits therefore to its own decisions being trampled under foot, provided their constituents' interests are not prejudiced thereby it becomes hopeless for India to look for justice or even common fairness from a cabinet whose very existence depends on the will of that Parliament.

Certain principles of morality are still upheld in Society, but are openly declared to be inapplicable to the actions of the Government.

Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil.—Its Unequalled Efficacy in the Wasting Diseases of Children.—Dr. G. Saunders, C. B., late Deputy Inspector-General Army Hospitals, Superintendent

London Medical Mission, writes :—" I have used Dr. De Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil extensively among the sick poor of St. Giles's, and consider it a valuable remedy, especially in the Wasting Diseases of Children." Dr. Stavely King, Physician to the Metropolitan Free Hospital, writes :—" I can very conscientiously testify to the superior qualities of Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil. I have employed it with great advantage in cases of Mesenteric and Pulmonary Tubercle, and in the Atrophic Diseases of children." Dr. R. C. Croft, author of "Handbook for the Nursery," writes :—" I have tried Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil, and find that it contains all the properties which render the Oil so efficacious. I find, moreover, that many patients prefer it to the Pale Oils, and are able to retain it more comfortably. It is almost a specific in many of the Diseases peculiar to Infancy and Childhood, and I have seen marked benefit produced by its use." Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil is sold only in capsuled imperial half-pints, pints, and quarts, with his stamp and signature and the signature of his sole consignees on the capsule and the label under wrapper by all chemists, druggists and storekeepers. Sole Consignees, Ansar, Harford & Co., 77, Strand London.

COMMERCIAL.

(FROM OUR COMMERCIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

Saturday, 29th October, 1881.

The commercial intelligence of the week is as meagre as that of the preceding week the markets continued inactive and operations in every department of trade were confind within narrow limits.

Piece-goods.—We have hardly any thing new to say but only to report that the prolonged absence of demand from the consuming districts has been the chief cause of the stagnation of this important branch of trade, which has been suffering long, not only from derangement of commercial elements, but also from local causes,—the breaking out of fever at the different centres of trade. The amount of transactions done was limited and chiefly in Grey goods, prices show an easer tendency.

Yarns.—Both import and country-manufactured sorts experienced no improvement, and lack of demand continued to be felt ; prices remain much the same.

In exports a better feeling to operate has been manifested, but high rates for tonnage and cost prevents free operations.

Tea.—At the sales held on the 27th instant want of animation has been felt and prices suffered a slight decline.

Lin-seed.—Transactions to a fair extent have taken place at prices ranging from 3-14 to 4-5.

Wheat.—At 2-12 to 3-6.

Jute.—Continues to find buyers at previous rates.

Rice.—About 60,000 bags of 2 maunds each of the following kinds found buyers at the rates quoted below:

Table gross	...	...	...	2-10	to	2 12
Ballam	...	...	...	1-14	„	2-3
Khuari	...	...	...	1-6	„	1-10
Soloi	...	...	...	1-9	„	1-12
Raree	...	...	...	1-5	„	1-14
Mooghee	...	...	...	1-12	„	2-1

MONETARY.

There has been no change in this market.

GOVT. SECURITIES.

Have been in less enquiry and the following rates ruled at the close.

4%	...	...	...	100-14
4½	...	...	...	109-4

JOINT-STOCK SHARES.

Market rather inactive, prices showed a falling tendency.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

MOFUSSIL SUBSCRIPTIONS.

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Raja Promotho Nath Roy Bahadur, Dighaputty	13	4	0
Dr. Ramdas Sen, Berhampore	13	4	0
Secy., Reading Club, Roy Bareilly.....	6	8	0
Pundit Durga Sunker, Jeypore.....	6	10	0
Baboo Shoseesekhor Roy, Benares.....	20	0	0
„ Mohendranath Roy Chowdhry, Satkhira..	6	10	0
„ Bunwarilal Biswas, Lucknow.....	6	10	0
„ Kallyprosunno Mookerjee, Chuprah ...	13	4	0
„ Ombica Churn Chatterjee, Burrisal	6	10	0
„ Chundernath Ghose, Goari Krishnagur..	6	0	0
„ Kallyprosunno Banerjee, Nyehatty.....	6	0	0
„ Grish Chunder Ghose, Hooghly.....	13	4	0

Government Notifications

Calcutta Gazette,—*October* 26, 1881.

GENERAL—Babu Girendranath Chatterjee, Sub-Deputy Collector, Koostea, Nuddea, is appointed to act until further orders, as a Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, and is posted to Dinagepore.

Babu Opendrachunder Mozoomdar, Temporary Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Rangpore, on leave, is transferred to Rajshahye, and is posted to the Sudder Station of that district.

Babu Nundjee, Officiating Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Manbhoom, is allowed leave for twenty-two days, under Section 71, Chapter V of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the date on which he may avail himself of it.

Mr. J. B. Wood is appointed to act, until further orders, as Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector.

Mr. G. M. Currie, Officiating Magistrate and Collector Monghyr, is appointed to act until further orders as Magistrate and Collector of Chittagong.

Mr. A. Manson, Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, is posted to Chittagong from the date he is relieved of his present appointment as Officiating Magistrate and Collector of that district.

Mr. G. G. Dey, is appointed to act, until further orders, in the First Grade of Joint-Magistrates and Collectors, and is posted to Monghyr from the date he is relieved of his present appointment as Officiating District and Sessions Judge of Bhagulpore.

Mr. T. Norman, Magistrate and Collector, Balasore, on leave, is appointed to act, until further orders, as Magistrate and Collector of Rungpore.

Mr. H. G. Cooke, is appointed to act, until further orders in the First Grade of Joint Magistrates and Deputy Collectors, and is posted to Dinagepore from the date he is relieved of his present appointment as Officiating Magistrate and Collector of Rungpore.

Advertisements.

SUBSCRIPTIONS TO THE PATRIOTIC FUND.

For the relief of soldiers who have been disabled and of the families of those who have died during the War in Afghanistan.

Amount already advertised						128573	11 0
Per Deputy Commissioner Kangra.							
Rae Kulu	...	50	0	0	...		
Tehsil Nurpur	...	23	12	0	...	73	12 0
Per H Mosley Esq., Offg. Magistrate of Moorshedabad.							
Estate of late Rai Anneda Prosad Rai Bahadoor of Cassimbazar	...	500	0	0	...		
Sidu Tahirin Ali Khan, Junior	...	20	0	0	...		
Sidu Tahirin Ali Khan, Senior		20	0	0	...	540	0 0
Per Deputy Commissioner Karnal District.							
H L Hebbert Esq, Assistant Engineer Western Jumna Canal	...	5	0	0	...		
Nawab Azmat Ali Khan of Karnal	...	100	0	0	...		
Nawab Amanulla Khan of Panipat	...	10	0	0	...		
Villagers of Tahsel Panipat		281	11	3	...		
Do of Barana	..	20	0	0	...		
Do of Faridpur	...	12	0	0	...		
Do of Harsingpur	...	7	0	0	...		
Do of Tahsil Panipat		516	10	0	...		
Do of Karnal	...	17	0	0	...		
Subscriptions under 5 Rs. each aggregating	...	19	0	0	...	988	5 3
Per Commissioner of Burdwan, Additional Subscriptions from the District of Beerbhoom.							
Ahashan Hossein Moonsee...		5	0	0	...		
Babu Brojendrakumar Banerji		5	0	0	...		
Kermat Hossein Alias Felumean	...	5	0	0	...		
Molazim Hossein	...	5	0	0	...		
Subscriptions under 5 Rs. each aggregating		23	0	0	...	43	0 0
Per F H Barrow Esq., Magistrate of Moorshedabad.							
Munshi Zellar Rahaman	...	300	0	0	...		
Khunkar Abu Syud	...	5	0	0	...		
„ Abdul Barkat	...	5	0	0	...		
Mahafoteneesa Bibi	...	10	0	0	...		
Babu Harimohun Sing	...	15	0	0	..		
„ Norendranarain Roy	...	50	0	0	...		
Rao Jogendronarain Roy	...	250	0	0	...		
Moora Mian		10	0	0	...		
Babu Bungshidhar Roy	...	50	0	0	...		
Mian Arjamand	...	20	0	0	...		
Rani Luchmi Kumari	...	50	0	0	...		
Babu Gungadass Roy	...	20	0	0	...		
Rai Rajib Lochan Roy Bahadur	...	25	0	0	...		
Babu Prankrishna Banerji		25	0	0	..		
Kumar Durganath Roy	...	100	0	0	...		
Babu Chundranath Mukerji		50	0	0	...		
Subscriptions under 5 Rs each aggregating		30	0	0	...		
		1015	0	0	...		
Less amount already advertised in list of 30 November		349	0	0	...	666	0 0
Per F B Peacock Esq. Commissioner Presidency Division							
Babu Sreedhur Roy Sub-Registrar Chaudpur, Jessore		5	0	0	...		
A friend	...	10	0	0	...		
Nawab Syad Ahmad Ali Bamboo Villa Lower Circular Road		50	0	0	...		
Magistrate of Moorshedabad		265	0	0	..		
Collector of Nuddea	...	250	0	0		580	0 0
						Rs. 1,31,464	12 8

Calcutta, 28th October 1881

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Wigram's Selections from the Judgments of the Privy Council, Reported in Moore's Indian Appeals, Sutherlands Privy Council Reports and Law Reports Indian Appeals, New, Rs. 9.

SECOND-HAND BOOKS.

Cowell's Hindu Law Tagore Law-lectures 1870-71) half bound of ; Rs. 17.

Moore's Indian Appeals Vol. 11, Rs, 10.

Morley's Digest of Reported Cases 3 Vols. containing Cases to the end of 1850, Rs. 30.

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FERRY SUPERINTENDENT,
N. B. S. Railway, Sara.

Sara,
24th October 1881.

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Calcutta, October 1881.

N. B.—Vernacular and other native papers will please forward quotation at contract rates for insertion of the above advertisement.

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Retired Sub-Engineer preferred.

BENGAL BONDED WARE-HOUSE ASSOCIATION.

In conformity with Section 5 of Act V of 1854, a General Meeting of Proprietors will be held on Wednesday the 9th instant, at noon, for the inspection of accounts for the half-year ended 31st October last, the declaration of a Dividend, and for the transaction of any other business that may be brought forward.

H. W. L. WOOD,
Secretary.

Calcutta, 1st November, 1881.

The adjourned (2nd adjourned) Special General Meeting of the Commissioners of the Town of Calcutta will be held at the Town Hall on Monday the 7th November 1881, at 3-30 P.M.

Business to be brought forward.

1. Government Resolution on the Administration Report of the Calcutta Municipality for the year 1880.

At the close of the adjourned Special General Meeting a Special Meeting will be held.

Business to be brought forward.

1. To confirm Proceedings of the Town Council at a Meeting held on the 29th of October.

2. To confirm Proceedings of the Bustee Committee at a Meeting held on the 19th of October.

3. To confirm Proceedings of the Tramway Committee at a Meeting held on the 27th of October.

4. To confirm Proceedings of the Kotrung Committee at Meetings held on the 20th August, 2nd and 24th September and 27th of October.

5. To confirm the appointment of two additional clerks at Rs. 20 each, recommended by the License Committee to do the clerical duties of the Inspector.

6. Vital Statistics for the month of September 1881.

R. TURNBULL,
Secy. to the Corporation.

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NOTIFICATION.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA IN THE P. W. DEPARTMENT.

No. 318, *dated* 29*th September* 1881.

Notice is hereby given for general information that His Excellency the Governor General in Council has been pleased to issue final orders that the Steamer service at present worked by the Eastern Bengal Railway Company between Goalundo and Serajgunge shall not be continued after the 31st December 1881.

NOTICE.

The Madras Fair will be held in the People's Park from Wednesday the 28th to Saturday the 31st December 1881, inclusive. Applications for sites for Shows, Performance, Refreshment stalls, &c., are to be made to

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